

1 Interview Summaries

1.1 Fort Fairfield

Interview Type	Municipality
Interview Location	Fort Fairfield
Interview Date	November 9, 2001
Summary Date	December 9, 2001
Interviewer	Thomas Burns agismap1@maine.rr.com
Interviewed	Richard 'Tony' Levesque, Jr. Staff Size (1)
Budget (approx)	\$10,000
URL:	http://www.fortfairfield.org/

1.1.1 Agency Overview

Mr. Levesque wears many hats at Fort Fairfield:

- Community Development Director
- Assessor
- Code Enforcement Officer
- Planner
- Building Inspector
- Plumbing Inspector

His total annual budget for those activities is \$10,000. Fort Fairfield is a small agricultural community that bills itself as the largest potato-producing town in the United States.

1.1.2 GIS Initiatives

1.1.2.1 Overview of GIS Utilization

GIS is not used by town officials or staff. The Northern Maine Development District to which Fort Fairfield belongs, produced a parcel composite for the town and gave them a hardcopy map showing the parcels two years ago but it has not been used for anything other than as a poster display.

1.1.2.2 GIS Operating Environment and Infrastructure

There have no GIS capability or infrastructure.

1.1.2.2.1 Spatial Data

Currently unavailable but desired data sets include:

1. E911 Road Centerline data with road names.

Mr. Levesque expressed a concern that the town has three rookie police officers and he wanted to have good map prepared for them in the vehicles.

Planned future GIS activity and applications:

Mr. Levesque is writing several grants which might enable him to allocate funds for certain GIS datasets. They were recently selected by FEMA as a Project Impact community. Since 1973 there have been six major floods in Fort Fairfield. The community ranks 7th in the state in National Flood Insurance Program claims paid. More than \$1,486,452.00 has been paid in Flood Insurance Claims since 1978. There are 89 structures at risk in the floodplain. Mr. Levesque is looking into whether he can use some of that money to GPS storm drains.

1.1.3 Other Relevant Issues

In spite of not having a GIS program, Mr. Levesque was open to the idea of using GIS software if it did not include much training or time spent learning yet another 'MS Office-like' program. He relies on NMDC in all matters relating to GIS.

1.1.4 Major Benefits and Cost Justification

There is no cost and currently, no benefit to Fort Fairfield with respect to GIS.